

we will all work and play. Already, tens of millions of Americans are using the Internet to communicate and to conduct important business. Cyberspace has even become important in politics, where it is now a vital tool in many areas.

Congress has to be computer and Internet literate if we are to be a Congress for the 21st century. This is why we have founded the Congressional Internet Caucus. It is our intention to try to help to provide for our other congressional colleagues navigation tools with which to find their way across the information landscape.

And that is why today we, the founding members of the Internet Caucus, are introducing this joint concurrent resolution on the Internet in both the House and the Senate today.

This House and Senate concurrent resolution urges our colleagues to get on-line and use the Net. It calls on Members of Congress to develop a better personnel understanding of the Net and how it operates. And, finally, it calls on Congress to start to use the Net in order to better communicate with the voters of this country.

The Internet and other information technology issues will only grow in importance as time goes by. Congress will be seeing more and more issues coming before it involving these new information technologies. We'd better be prepared.

This concurrent resolution is a good beginning step in that direction.

SENATE RESOLUTION 262—RELATIVE TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mr. GREGG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. RES. 262

Whereas violations by the People's Republic of China of United States intellectual property rights cost the United States economy an estimated \$2,300,000,000 in 1995;

Whereas in 1991, 1992, and 1994, the office of the United States Trade Representatives initiated special section 301 investigations of the People's Republic of China's intellectual property rights violations, but did not impose sanctions;

Whereas in 1995 the People's Republic of China entered into an agreement with the United States that called for the closing of, or cessation of illegal activities in, factories that were pirating American videotapes, computer software, CD-ROMs, compact disks, and laser disks;

Whereas despite the terms of the 1995 Intellectual Property Rights Agreement, piracy of intellectual property rights has continued in the People's Republic of China;

Whereas while United States officials report that officials of the People's Republic of China have recently raided and closed a few factories engaged in piracy, in the past such actions have been cosmetic and only temporary; and

Whereas the United States Trade Representative has determined that the People's Republic of China tolerates the greatest volume of intellectual property rights piracy of all of the United States trading partners: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that sanctions should be imposed upon the

People's Republic of China for its failure to comply with the 1995 Intellectual Property Rights Agreement which it entered into with the United States and that such sanctions should remain in effect until the United States Trade Representatives certifies to the Congress that the People's Republic of China is complying with all of the terms of that Agreement by either—

(1) closing all factories that are engaged in piracy, or

(2) assuring such factories operate only pursuant to joint ventures or licensing agreements with United States companies.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I have been calling on the administration to impose sanctions on China if they do not live up to the intellectual property agreement that they willingly signed.

The fact of the matter is, they have approximately 31 factories that are turning out laser disks and CD's. They are supposed to destroy these factories. I spoke to the U.S. Trade Representative. They seem to be making some progress, but not enough.

And so, Mr. President, I will be pushing hard for these sanctions. As the MFN debate comes up, I will support MFN. I also am pleased to say Senator Judd GREGG is a coauthor of my sanctions resolution.

Mr. President, in January 1992 the United States and China signed a Memorandum of Understanding obligating China to strengthen its patent, copyright and trade secret laws and to improve the protection of United States intellectual property.

On April 30, 1994 the United States Trade Representative, or USTR, announced that while China had made significant progress toward implementing the 1992 agreement—by enacting new laws on intellectual property rights—China's enforcement of those laws was weak and sporadic.

In February 1995 the United States and China reached an agreement, signed in Beijing, in which China pledged to substantially reform its intellectual property rights and to improve market access. It is under this agreement, the 1995 Intellectual Property Rights Agreement, that the United States and China currently operate.

The USTR has determined that China's overall implementation of its obligations under the 1995 agreement fall far short of the requirements of the agreement.

The manufacture of pirated U.S. intellectual property, particularly computer software, compact discs, laser discs and videos, continues to be rampant. Moreover, China's efforts to stop the manufacture of pirated United States products has been utterly inadequate.

A delegation from the office of the United States Trade Representative traveled to China on Thursday June 6 and Friday, June 7, to reiterate to Chinese officials the United States' resolve in holding China to the commitments it made in the 1995 Intellectual Property Rights Agreement.

Ambassador Barshefsky is joining that delegation today and they will be meeting with Chinese officials in Beijing over the next several days.

The United States delegation, led by Ambassador Barshefsky, is seeking China's commitment to close compact disc plants producing pirated software, tighten customs controls on exports of pirated goods and to give greater access to the Chinese markets for United States music, film and computer software firms.

It is important to note that the USTR is not seeking new concessions on the part of the Chinese Government. Rather, Chinese officials made all of these commitments in the Intellectual Property Agreement signed last year.

It has been reported that Chinese officials have indicated progress could be made on most of the United States demands—closing compact disc factories producing pirated software and tightening controls on exports of pirated goods. However, Chinese officials have apparently said that United States demands of freer access to the Chinese publication, music and software markets may not be met.

Chinese officials have also balked at United States demands to open their markets and to allow United States companies to engage in joint ventures with Chinese companies to produce legitimate copies of music, films and books.

Yesterday China's propaganda department reported that it had ordered all CD plants opened in recent months, not approved by Beijing, closed. China reports that at least 12 plants have been closed.

Exactly how many plants have been closed, will be closed and most important will remain closed remains the subject of verification efforts by the USTR delegation and the subject of Ambassador Barshefsky's talks with Chinese officials.

Ambassador Barshefsky has said that "it remains to be seen whether the Chinese effort in this and other areas is sufficient to meet the terms of our agreement. I also want to ensure that there is an enforcement system in place to crack down on intellectual property piracy in the future."

Among the seven factories which were closed last spring when the agreement was initially signed, all but one has re-opened. There are currently about 31 factories, operating throughout China, churning out pirated United States computer software, compact discs, laser discs, videos, movies, and other products.

The USTR has recently estimated that United States companies lose more than \$2 billion annually as a result of the pervasive piracy of United States products in China.

The United States software industry estimates that piracy of computer software is in excess of 95 percent in China. The piracy of United States CDs, laser discs, cassette tapes, videos, and movies is close to 100 percent in many parts of China.

The USTR reports that in the past 2 years, Chinese companies have begun

to export pirated products in fairly significant quantities. For example, 29 compact disc and laser disc factories in China have a production capacity of as much as 75 million CDs for a domestic market that can absorb only 5 million CDs.

Similarly, China's exportation of CD ROMs, which can hold dozens of computer software programs, and other copyrighted works, on a single disc continues to increase.

Some of the fastest growing and most competitive industries in the United States—and ones in which we frequently have a trade surplus—are located in my home State of California. These companies have been particularly devastated by China's failure to adequately enforce intellectual property rights. The California economy has also been affected.

California is the leading producer of movies, computer software, recordings, video games, and other creative works.

California's movie and television industries employed almost 165,000 Californians last year. The combined payroll of those industries was almost \$7.5 billion.

California, while in the midst of an economic recovery, was gripped by a recession from 1990 through early 1995. Much of the success of this recovery is largely dependent upon the continued growth and expansion of California's entertainment and high technology industries. Industries which produce patented and copyrighted material to be sold domestically and internationally.

I would note that the entertainment and high technology industries have also helped spurn the Nation's economy. Moreover, these industries have provided more jobs and more high wage jobs in California than almost any other industries.

These companies cannot continue to flourish, however, if their intellectual property rights are not vigilantly enforced and protected throughout the world.

I understand that the United States-China relationship is a multifaceted and important relationship for reasons beyond economics. However, China's effective enforcement of intellectual property protections is critical to the future success of that relationship and is also a clear test of our resolve to enforce our trade agreements.

That is why I, along with my co-sponsor Senator GREGG, am introducing this resolution, expressing the sense of the Senate that sanctions should be imposed on China until the USTR certifies that China is complying with the 1995 agreement—whether by closing all pirate factories, or by allowing such factories to operate pursuant to joint venture or licensing agreements with U.S. companies.

The USTR initiated special section 301 investigations of China's intellectual property rights violations in 1991, 1992, and 1994, but no sanctions were imposed.

The USTR has determined that China tolerates the greatest volume of intel-

lectual property rights piracy of all of other United States trading partners.

Therefore, I think it is imperative that we pass this resolution. The passage of this resolution will send a clear message that the U.S. Senate is firmly committed to protecting U.S. intellectual property throughout the world.

The passage of this resolution will also let the Chinese government know that the United States Senate is firmly resolved to effectuating and enforcing our trade agreements.

SENATE RESOLUTION 263— RELATING TO CHURCH BURNING

By Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN (for herself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PELL, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted the following resolution; which was held at the desk:

S. RES. 263

Whereas there have been at least 32 fires of suspicious origin at churches serving African-American communities in the last 18 months;

Whereas these churches are a vital part of the life of these communities;

Whereas intentionally burning churches is a very heinous crime in these communities, and all across America, because church burning was used during the civil rights struggle in an attempt to intimidate African-Americans from exercising their Constitutional rights;

Whereas there have been at least 60 fires and incidents of desecration in houses of worship in 15 different States since 1990;

Whereas intentionally burning churches, when done to intimidate any American from the free exercise of his or her rights as an American, is inconsistent with the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, which guarantees every American the right to the free exercise of his or her religion;

Whereas intentionally burning churches, when done to intimidate any American from the free exercise of his or her rights as an American is also inconsistent with the First Amendment guarantee that ensures that Americans can freely and peaceably assemble together; and

Whereas intentionally burning churches, when done to intimidate any American from the free exercise of his or her rights is a serious national problem that must be expeditiously and vigorously addressed: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate condemns arson against churches as being totally inconsistent with American values;

(2) the Senate believes that the investigation and prosecution of those who are responsible for fires at churches, and especially any incidents of arson whose purpose is to divide communities or to intimidate any Americans, should be a high national priority; and

(3) the Senate commends the President for devoting all Federal resources necessary to bring those responsible for committing any act of arson against churches to justice, and urges that all investigations of fires at churches which are of suspicious origin are conducted in a sensitive manner that reflects the special character of churches and the role they play in American communities.

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Yesterday, Mr. President, I came to the floor and

spoke about what I called the domestic terrorism that we are suffering in this country with the burning of churches and other hate crimes in our Nation. I spoke at some length about it and mentioned a time that I will submit a resolution pertaining to the church burnings. I am submitting that legislation now, Mr. President. I would like it held at the desk until the time of adoption.

Mr. President, I know there will be other legislative activity associated with this issue in the days to come. But as the Chair is no doubt aware, since yesterday, when I first took to the floor, there has been yet another church burning in this country.

As I said yesterday, the people who are perpetrators of this rash of hate crimes and church burnings are no more than cowardly domestic terrorists. These are people who work under cover of darkness and anonymity to intimidate some and encourage others, and it is out of cowardice.

However, in spite of the objective of these actions, which it has been suggested are intended to start a race war, there is every indication that these arsonists are confused about the country in which their crimes are taking place.

Most Americans—I reiterate, most Americans—are appalled and outraged. The fact of the matter is, there is in this darkness some light coming through. The light relates, Mr. President, to the efforts of Americans, from the President of the United States down to ordinary people, to stand up, to speak out, to be heard and to demonstrate that this kind of crime, this kind of heinous crime and this kind of domestic terrorism is not to be tolerated in this America.

I have been encouraged, Mr. President, by some of the reports from my home State. In Glenn Carbon, IL, there had been a cross burning. In one of the newspapers in Illinois, the headline there was "Neighbors Comfort Black Family Who Found Cross in Yard." The story goes on to say that the people, white and black alike, who live in the community came to the aid of the individuals who suffered the cross burning to indicate their support, to indicate their reassurance that the racial hatred that was symbolized by the cross burning did not reflect the feelings of the neighborhood or of that community. I think that is a very positive and powerful thing.

Another article, Mr. President, from the Alton Telegraph, "Neighbors show good will to victims of cross burning," makes the same point. This article goes on to say that neighbors delivered flowers and food, cards, plants and other gifts to the family on Monday, people reaching outside of themselves to stand up against hatred, to stand up against racism, to stand up against the evil that this church burning represents.

I think therein lies the key. We can take action here in this U.S. Congress, the Senate and the House, and the